

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION SUSAN BITTER SMITH 2 Arizona Corporation Commission Chairman DOCKETED 3 **BOB STUMP** Commissioner JUN 26 2015 **BOB BURNS** Commissioner DOCKETED BY **DOUG LITTLE** 5 Keru Commissioner TOM FORESE 6 Commissioner 7 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION DOCKET NO. W-02168A-11-0363 8 OF TRUXTON CANYON WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A 9 RATE INCREASE IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION DOCKET NO. W-02168A-13-0309 10 OF TRUXTON CANYON WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A 11 REVISION OF THE COMPANY'S EXISTING TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF WATER 12 **SERVICE** IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION DOCKET NO. W-02168A-13-0332 13 OF TRUXTON CANYON WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO DECISION NO. 75122 14 INCUR LONG-TERM DEBT **ORDER** 15 16 Open Meeting 17 June 16 and 17, 2015 Phoenix, Arizona 18 BY THE COMMISSION: 19 **FINDINGS OF FACT** 20 Introduction and Background 21 1. In Decision No. 72724, dated January 6, 2012, the Arizona Corporation Commission 22 ("Commission") authorized interim rates for Truxton Canyon Water Company, Inc. ("Truxton" or 23 "Company"). These interim rates resulted in a rate increase for Truxton's customers which included 24 Valley Vista Property Owner's Association ("VVPOA"). Among other things, the Decision required 25 that all monies paid by VVPOA through the interim tariff be subject to a true up once the permanent 26 rates were approved. In Decision No. 74835, dated November 14, 2014, the Commission authorized 27

permanent rates for Truxton that resulted in a rate decrease for its customers including VVPOA.

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Further, consistent with Decision No. 72724, Decision No. 74835 required Truxton to file certain information that would facilitate the true up of monies paid by VVPOA. On page 34, beginning at line 22 of Decision No. 74835, it states:

... Truxton should be required to prepare, as a compliance item in this docket, a report detailing the amount of the refund, with interest, that is to be credited to VVPOA's August 2012 bill, as well as a calculation of all monies subject to true up based on this Decision. Truxton shall file its report within 14 days of the effective date of this Decision, and VVPOA shall file its response 14 days after Truxton's filing. Staff shall be required to review the filings and make its recommendations set forth in a Proposed Form of Order for the Commission's consideration.

2. On April 24, 2015, Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") sent correspondence to Truxton inquiring about related compliance matters set forth in Decision Nos. 74833 and 74835. On May 8, 2015, Truxton filed a Compliance Report that responded to Staff's inquiries. On March 12, 2015, Truxton and VVPOA made a joint filing which agreed upon the amount owed, but no agreement was reached regarding the period of time over which the refunds were to be made and the parties requested that Staff mediate the refund period issue.

The Joint Filing and Staff's Mediation

- 3. The joint filing indicated that the amount over-paid by VVPOA and subject to refund was \$141,874 which included no interest. However, Truxton and VVPOA could not agree upon the period over which the refunds (via credits to VVPOA bills) would be made. Truxton proposed that the \$141,874 overpayment be refunded over a 60 month period. VVPOA proposed that the overpayment be refunded over a 24 month period. The two parties requested that Staff mediate in order to help resolve this final issue.
- 4. On April 17, 2015, representatives from Truxton and VVPOA met with Staff to mediate the period over which the \$141,874 was to be refunded via credits to VVPOA bills. To aid the mediation discussions, Staff provided documentation showing the effects on Truxton's cash flow when the overpayment is refunded over 2 ½ years, 3 years, 3 ½ years, 4 years, and 5 years. The parties took the information under advisement and attempted to work out a refund period but were still

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unable to reach agreement. Therefore, in accordance to Decision No. 74835, Staff has determined a refund period which takes into account the concerns of both parties.

Findings and Recommendations Concerning the Refund Period

- 5. Staff has considered the comments and concerns discussed in the mediation and the joint filing. The following is a summary of Staff's findings and recommendations.
 - Staff finds that Truxton's proposed refund/crediting period of 60 months as a. shown on Attachment A is reasonable as Staff believes that the level of cash flow obtained by using a 60 month refund period provides the Company with sufficient cash flow to meet unforeseen contingencies.
 - b. Staff finds that including an interest component as provided for in Decision No. 74835 of 6 percent per year, which equates to .05 percent per month (6 percent ÷ 12 months = .05 percent) is reasonable in light of the 60-month refund period. Staff notes that both parties were agreeable to including consideration of a reasonable level of interest component.
 - Staff further recommends that interest should begin to accrue July 1, 2015. c. Staff considered accruing interest on the balance from the date the permanent rates went into effect (i.e., November 14, 2014) but taking into account the comments made at the mediation, Staff determined that accruing interest beginning July 1, 2015 would be a reasonable compromise.
 - d. Staff's recommended refund and refund period were calculated under the assumption that the first refund, in the form of a bill credit, would be reflected on the VVPOA bill rendered by Truxton in July of 2015.
 - If the first refund/credit is made later than July 2015, then Staff finds that its e. recommended schedule shown on Attachment A should be recalculated to include the interest that accrued from July 1, 2015 to the date the first refund (via credit to VVPOA bill) is made.
 - f. Staff recommends that the refunds be made or recognized by credits posted to each monthly bill of VVPOA until all refund obligations, including accrued interest, have been credited to the VVPOA account.
 - Staff concludes and recommends that Staff's refund amount and refund period g. as shown on Attachment A to Staff's Memorandum is reasonable and should be adopted.
- 6. The Commission concludes that Staff's recommendations are reasonable and should be adopted except that we believe the refund should occur over 42 months (3.5 years) as opposed to 60 months.

Decision No. 75122

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW Truxton Canyon Water Company, Inc. is a public service corporation within the 1. meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-250, 40-251 and 40-367. 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Truxton Canyon Water Company, Inc. and of the subject matter of this application. 3. The amount to be refunded, credits amounts, and payment periods set forth in Attachment A to this Order are just and reasonable and should be approved.

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1 **ORDER** IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the refund and credit amounts that are to be made by 2 Truxton Water Company, Inc. to the water bills of Valley Vista Property Owner's Association shall be 3 4 in accordance with Attachment A. 5 BY THE ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 6 7 8 CHAIRMAN COMMISSIO 9 10 COMMISSIONER 12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, JODI JERICH, Executive 13 Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this 14 Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this 211th day of _______, 2015. 15 16 17 18 EXÉCUTIVE ØIRECTO 19 DISSENT: _ 20 21 DISSENT: 22 SMO:CSB:vsc/BH 23 24 25 26

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Decision No. <u>75122</u>

Docket No. W-02168A-11-0363, et. al

Attachment A

Truxton Canyon Water Company Docket No. W-02168A-11-0363

VVPOA Proposed Annual Credit

Revised Attachment A

SCHEDULE OF RECOMMENDED MONTHLY REFUND/CREDIT TO VVPOA AMORTIZED OVER 3 1/2 YEARS

Total Amount to be Refunded \$141,874
Truxton Proposed Annual Credit \$28,000

\$70,937

*Interest to begin accruing July 1, 2015
Annual Interest Rate: 6.00%
Monthly Interest Rate: 0.50%

[A]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[1]	U)
Start of		Revised		Annual	Annual			
Each Bill		Monthly Amount of		Amount	Amount			Percent of
Credit	Monthly Balance	Overpayment to be	Monthly Interest*	Credited to	Credited to	Revised	Truxton's	Truxton's
Year	of VVPOA	Credited on VVPOA Bill	.05% per month	VVPOA	VVPOA	Total Monthly	Monthly	Monthly
	Overpayment	Before Interest	(6% per yr / 12 mos)	Before Interest	With Interest	Credit	Revenue	Revenue
	#141.074.00	***************************************	(Col. C x .05%)			(Col. D + Col. E)		Col. H / Col I
1	\$141,874.00	\$6,950.00 \$6,950.00				\$7,659.37	\$49,471.00	15.48%
	\$134,924.00	\$6,950.00				\$7,624.62	\$48,214.00	15.81%
	\$127,974.00	\$5,560.00 \$4,470.00				\$6,199.87	\$43,012.00	14.41%
	\$122,414.00	\$4,170.00				\$4,782.07	\$41,791.00	11.44%
	\$118,244.00	\$695.00	\$591.22	635 030 00	600 024 00	\$1,286.22	\$44,741.00	2.87%
	\$117,549.00	\$695.00		\$25,020.00	\$28,834.90	\$1,282.75	\$36,176.00	3.55%
	\$116,854.00 \$116,150.00	\$695.00				\$1,279.27	\$27,543.00	4.64%
	\$116,159.00 \$115,464.00	\$695.00 \$1,300.00				\$1,275.80	\$21,970.00	5.81%
	\$115,464.00 \$114,074.00	\$1,390.00 \$1,390.00	\$577.32 \$570.37			\$1,967.32	\$25,403.00	7.74%
	\$112,684.00	\$1,390.00 \$4,170.00				\$1,960.37	\$27,498.00	7.13%
	\$108,514.00	\$5,560.00	\$563.42 \$542.57			\$4,733.42	\$29,004.00	16.32%
2	\$103,314.00	\$5,500.00 \$6,950.00				\$6,102.57	\$41,421.00	14.73%
2	\$96,004.00	\$6,950.00 \$6,950.00	\$480.02			\$7,464.77	\$49,471.00	15.09%
	\$89,054.00	\$5,560.00 \$5,560.00	\$460.02 \$445.27			\$7,430.02 \$6,005,27	\$48,214.00 \$43,012.00	15.41%
	\$83,494.00	\$4,170.00	\$417.47			\$6,005.27 \$4,587.47	\$43,012.00 \$41,701.00	13.96% 10.98%
	\$79,324.00	\$695.00	\$396.62			\$1,091.62	\$41,791.00 \$44,741.00	2.44%
	\$78,629.00	\$695.00 \$695.00	\$393.15	\$38,920.00	\$44,986.04	\$1,088.15	\$36,176.00	3.01%
	\$77,934.00	\$695.00		ψ30,7 2 0.00	φ ττ ,260.0τ	\$1,084.67	\$27,543.00	3.94%
	\$77,239.00	\$695.00	\$386.20			\$1,081.20	\$21,970.00	4.92%
	\$76,544.00	\$1,390.00				\$1,772.72	\$25,403.00	6.98%
	\$75,154.00	\$1,390.00	\$375.77			\$1,765.77	\$27,498.00	6.42%
	\$73,764.00	\$4,170.00	\$368.82			\$4,538.82	\$29,004.00	15.65%
	\$69,594.00	\$5,560.00	\$347.97			\$5,907.97	\$41,421.00	14.26%
3	\$64,034.00	\$6,950.00	\$320.17			\$7,270.17	\$49,471.00	14.70%
	\$57,084.00	\$6,950.00	\$285.42			\$7,235.42	\$48,214.00	15.01%
	\$50,134.00	\$5,560.00	\$250.67		,	\$5,810.67	\$43,012.00	13.51%
	\$44,574.00	\$4,170.00	\$222.87			\$4,392.87	\$41,791.00	10.51%
	\$40,404.00	\$695.00	\$202.02			\$897.02	\$44,741.00	2.00%
	\$39,709.00	\$695.00	\$198.55	\$38,920.00	\$42,650.84	\$893.55	\$36,176.00	2.47%
	\$39,014.00	\$695.00	\$195.07	,	- ,	\$890.07	\$27,543.00	3.23%
	\$38,319.00	\$695.00	\$191.60			\$886.60	\$21,970.00	4.04%
	\$37,624.00	\$1,390.00	\$188.12			\$1,578.12	\$25,403.00	6.21%
	\$36,234.00	\$1,390.00	\$181.17			\$1,571.17	\$27,498.00	5.71%
	\$34,844.00	\$4,170.00	\$174.22			\$4,344.22	\$29,004.00	14.98%
	\$30,674.00	\$5,560.00	\$153.37			\$5,713.37	\$41,421.00	13.79%
4	\$25,114.00	\$6,950.00	\$125.57			\$7,075.57	\$49,471.00	14.30%
	\$18,164.00	\$6,950.00	\$90.82			\$7,040.82	\$48,214.00	14.60%
	\$11,214.00	\$5,560.00	\$56.07			\$5,616.07	\$43,012.00	13.06%
	\$5,654.00	\$4,170.00	\$28.27			\$4,198.27	\$41,791.00	10.05%
	\$1,484.00	\$695.00	\$7.42			\$702.42	\$44,741.00	1.57%
	\$789.00	\$789.00	\$3.95	\$39,014.00	\$40,409.64	\$792.95	\$36,176.00	2.19%
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\$141,874.00

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